



Hemp Export and Import Information

Exporting plants and plant products

WSDA Plant Services Program provides inspection and phytosanitary certification of plants and plant products moving interstate or to foreign countries. Most states and countries require a “phyto” or other inspection certificate to allow entry of planting stock. Growers who propagate hemp plants and wish to sell or ship them should first obtain a nursery endorsement on their Master Business License, through the Department of Revenue’s Business Licensing Services. This nursery license alerts WSDA inspectors that you are ready for a growing season inspection of the plants you are selling.

How can I get a phytosanitary certificate to export hemp plants?

Phytosanitary certificates are issued through either the WSDA certification and billing system PISCES (for domestic or interstate shipments), or the USDA website PCIT (for foreign exports). Contact the environmental specialist in your county to schedule an export inspection and discuss fees. You must create accounts in both sites to submit an inspection application. WSDA services are billed through the PISCES system. USDA’s fees for issuing a phyto through their system are separate and are charged through PCIT.

What do inspectors look for during a phytosanitary inspection?

Inspectors look for signs of pests and/or disease symptoms on hemp plants. Each state and country has its own requirements for importation of plants, so it is important to request an inspection allowing plenty of time for the inspector to research the importing requirements of the appropriate state or county for each shipment. There may be quarantine requirements for testing, treatment, or growing season inspection to rule out prohibited plant pests and diseases.

Importing hemp plants and plant products

All plant material shipped into Washington State must be accompanied by an inspection certificate from the state or country of origin and be free of injurious pests, diseases, and noxious weeds. Plant shipments must be labeled to identify the botanical name *Cannabis sativa* and the common name “hemp.” The agriculture department located where the plants originate can provide a certificate of inspection for the shipper.

A notification and a certificate of quarantine compliance is required for plants that originate from states with infestations of Japanese beetle.

For more information about Washington State Plant Health quarantines, call 360-902-1874, or see the first two resources in the box above.

Resources

- ▶ **National Plant Board:**
nationalplantboard.org
- ▶ **WSDA Plant Services Program:**
agr.wa.gov and *search for plant health*
- ▶ **Business Licensing Services:**
search for it at dor.wa.gov
- ▶ **PISCES:**
agr.wa.gov and *search for PISCES*
- ▶ **PCIT:**
usda.gov and *search for APHIS PCIT*
- ▶ **County environmental specialists:**
agr.wa.gov and *search for plant services inspector*